



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

April 9, 2014

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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
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Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Executive Summary

This memorandum contains reports on the following:

- **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**
 - **County-sponsored SB 909 (Pavley)** - related to social workers' authority to allow initial medical, dental, and mental health screenings for detained children in the dependency system, passed the Senate Human Services Committee on April 8, 2014.
- **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**
 - **County-supported SB 912 (Mitchell)** - related to food and beverage options offered in vending machines operated and maintained on State property, passed the Senate Governmental Organization Committee on April 8, 2014.
 - **County-supported SB 939 (Block)** - related to the consolidation of multiple cases of human trafficking, pimping and pandering into one jurisdiction, passed the Senate Public Safety Committee on April 8, 2014.
- **Status of Legislation of County Interest**
 - **AB 1975 (Hernandez)**. This measure would require a local emergency medical services agency that implements a trauma care system to commission the American College of Surgeons to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the system every three years.

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- **AB 2325 (Pérez).** This measure would require the establishment of the CommuniCal Program to provide medical interpretation services for Medi-Cal recipients, passed the Assembly Human Service Committee on April 8, 2014.

Status of County-Sponsored Legislation

County-sponsored SB 909 (Pavley), which as amended on March 20, 2014, would allow a social worker to authorize an initial medical, dental, and mental health screening of a child in temporary custody that is necessary prior to the required initial petition hearing to help meet the needs of detained children in the dependency system, among other provisions, passed the Senate Human Services Committee with amendments by a vote of 5 to 0 on April 8, 2014. The amendments approved in committee include: 1) clarification that the bill does not permit the authorization of psychotropic medication; and 2) the addition of the term "non-invasive" to describe the medical screen provided under this bill which means non-penetration of the skin. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-supported SB 912 (Mitchell), which as introduced on January 23, 2014, would delete the repeal date of when vending machine operators would be allowed to cease compliance with the requirement that they offer food and beverage options that meet accepted nutritional guidelines in vending machines operated and maintained on State property, passed the Senate Governmental Organization Committee, by a vote of 8 to 1 on April 8, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

County-supported SB 939 (Block), which as amended on April 2, 2014, would include human trafficking, pimping, and pandering to the specified offenses to which certain jurisdictional requirements apply allowing for the consolidation of multiple charges of these crimes from multiple jurisdictions into a single trial if all district attorneys in counties with jurisdiction agree to the venue, passed the Senate Public Safety Committee by a vote of 7 to 0 on April 8, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

Status of Legislation of County Interest

AB 1975 (Hernandez), which as amended on March 28, 2014, would require a local emergency medical services agency that implements a trauma care system to commission the American College of Surgeons to conduct a comprehensive assessment of equitability and access to the system every three years.

County-opposed AB 1357 (Hernandez) of 2013 would have required County Measure B funds collected from properties in the San Gabriel Valley to remain within that region for medical and trauma services to reduce ambulance diversion. In addition, the bill would have established a task force to study and audit County Measure B funds collected from properties in the San Gabriel Valley since the passage of the Measure. On April 30, 2013, at the request of the author, AB 1357 was held in the Assembly Health Committee. Thereby, the bill failed to pass out of its house of origin by the January 31, 2014 deadline.

In lieu of moving AB 1357 forward, Assembly Member Hernandez submitted a request to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) for an audit of the County's allocation and management of Measure B funds for the period from 2008 through 2012. As reported in the June 5, 2013 Sacramento Update, JLAC approved the audit request which was conducted by the State Auditor.

On February 20, 2014, the State Auditor released its report and recommendations related to the audit of Measure B funds. Among its recommendations, the State Auditor recommended that, in order to evaluate whether its trauma system is appropriately designed and serving the needs of residents in underserved areas and the needs of the most at-risk populations, the Board of Supervisors should use Measure B funds to engage the American College of Surgeons to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the use of these funds.

In response to the State Auditor's recommendation, the Department of Health Services (DHS) noted that all designated trauma centers in Los Angeles County are routinely evaluated by the American College of Surgeons to verify quality of trauma care to ensure that processes are in place to provide timely care. DHS also reported that all directors at the existing 14 trauma centers are Surgical Fellows of the American College of Surgeons. In addition, a representative from the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma serves as a member of the County's Trauma Hospital Advisory Committee. DHS concluded that it will discuss and evaluate whether additional information could be gained from conducting a study with the American College of Surgeons.

As amended, AB 1975 would extend the recommendation contained in the State Auditor's report on the County's use of Measure B trauma funds to require all local emergency medical services agencies that implement a trauma care system to commission the American College of Surgeons to conduct a comprehensive assessment of equitability and access to the system every three years.

According to the Department of Health Services, it is appropriate for counties planning to implement a trauma system to consult with the American College of Surgeons as Los Angeles did in 1983. However, requiring a comprehensive access of a trauma system every three years as specified under AB 1975 would not be beneficial. Specifically, DHS indicates that a three-year cycle goes by very quickly and, typically, trauma systems do not

Each Supervisor
April 9, 2014
Page 4

see significant changes in population, injuries, operation or policy. AB 1975 calls for a comprehensive assessment of equitability and access to the trauma system. According to DHS, this data can be evaluated now in the Emergency Management System (EMS) Agency Trauma Plan and annual update which the County is required to submit to the State EMS Authority. DHS also reports that the State EMS Authority is in the final stages of preparing a State EMS Trauma Plan which is being developed by experts in the field. The objective of the State Plan is to create an inclusive statewide trauma system that provides standardized trauma care for all citizens of California. The Plan will address universal access to services, delineation of minimum standards of care, guidelines for trauma center designation, data collection requirements, system evaluation quality management, and funding mechanisms.

AB 1975 is scheduled for a hearing in the Assembly Health Committee on April 29, 2014. Currently, there is no registered support or opposition on file to this measure.

This office will continue to work with the Department of Health Service to determine the impact of AB 1975 on the County.

AB 2325 (Pérez), which as introduced on February 21, 2014, would require the California Department of Health Care Services to establish the CommuniCal Program to provide and reimburse medical interpretation services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are limited English proficient, passed the Assembly Health Committee by a vote of 13 to 6 on April 8, 2014. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR:VE:IGEA:ma

c: All Department Heads
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